

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

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AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 099760

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM WARSAW DTD 12 APR 19 YTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 3060

FOR EUR - LUERS

EBMO. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS CSCE SHUM SCUL PL US

SUBJ: DIVIDED FAMILIES

1. FOLLOWING UP YOUR WELL-THOUGHT-OUT CONVERSATION WITH PAWLISZEWSKI (STATE 89738) I MADE DIVIDED FAMILIES ISSUE CENTER-PIECE MY FIRST TOUR D'HORIZON WITH VICE FONMIN NZYREK, NOW IN CHARGE OF NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS. HIS REPLY, WHICH WE ANTICIPATED, ALTHOUGH NO DIFFERENT FROM EARLIER POSITION COMMUNICATED AT LOWER LEVELS OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, DOES NOT MEAN THAT MOVING QUESTION TO HIS LEVEL WILL HAVE NO EFFECT. IT IS SIMPLY CONFIDENTIAL

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TOO EARLY TO TELL.

2. AT THE SAME TIME, IN ALL MY CALLS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS HAVE HIT ME WITH VARYING DEGREES OF INTENSITY WITH PLEAS FOR CONTINUED AND EXPANDED FINANCIAL, COMMERCIAL, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL, ETC. TIES WITH THE UNITED STATES.

3. WE THEREFORE ARE CONFRONTED WITH CLASSICAL CASE OF U.S. ATTACHING GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ONE ISSUE WHICH POLES OBVIOUSLY PREFER TO IGNORE OR TO CHARACTERIZE AS TOO MINOR TO AFFECT WHOLE SPECTRUM OF OUR RELATIONS WHILE THEY EMPHASIZE OTHER ASPECTS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP. YET IT IS IN AREAS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO POLAND WHERE THERE IS GREATEST ACTIVITY AND MOVEMENT AND WHERE POLAND PROFITS MOST.

4. AS LONG AS GOP BELIEVES THAT IT CAN CONTINUE TO DEAL SATISFACTORILY WITH OTHER ISSUES WITHOUT REFERENCE TO DIVIDED FAMILIES AND HUMAN RIGHTS NEITHER YOUR DEMARCHES NOR OURS WILL HAVE MUCH EFFECT.

5. THEREFORE IT SEEMS IMPERATIVE THAT, IN CONTACTS WITH GOP ON THESE OTHER QUESTIONS OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE POLES, REFERENCE HAS TO BE MADE TO THIS UNSETTLED ISSUE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO U.S., NOT LEAST BECAUSE IT DIRECTLY CONCERNS U.S. CITIZENS AND LEGISLATORS AS WELL AS USG ITSELF. IT IS NOT ONLY A MATTER OF AN IMPORTANT PRINCIPLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN A THEORETICAL OR PHILOSOPHICAL SENSE, BUT A MATTER AFFECTING ELEMENTS OF OUR SOCIETY WHICH CAN INFLUENCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICY TOWARD POLAND.

6. I WILL URGE ALL U.S. VISITORS HERE, INCLUDING SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, TO REMIND GOP OF THIS ASPECT OF OUR RELATIONS SO THAT THE POLES EVENTUALLY REALIZE THAT LACK OF MOVEMENT ON THEIR PART
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COULD EFFECT OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD MATTERS OF GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THEM. SIMILARLY THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD BUILD THIS SUBJECT INTO ITS BRIEFING PAPERS FOR THE VARIOUS MEETINGS HELD IN WASHINGTON WITH POLISH OFFICIALS AND DELEGATIONS, E.G. WORKING GROUP MEETING ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION APRIL 17. AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT, IT SHOULD TRY TO ENSURE THAT IT IS NOT OVERLOOKED IN THE ACTUAL DISCUSSIONS.

7. REGARDING CONGRESS I ASSUME THAT SHASOWSKI -- AS WELL AS OTHER POLISH OFFICIALS -- WILL BE CALLING ON SELECTED SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN, INCLUDING THOSE WHO HAVE LARGE NUMBERS OF POLISH-AMERICAN CONSTITUENTS. WE SHOULD TRY TO ASSURE THAT THEY ARE INFORMED OF OUR CONCERNS AND COMMUNICATE THEM TO HIM.

8. I AM CONVINCED WE CAN MAKE PROGRESS ON THIS ISSUE IF WE PERSEVERE. IT WILL BE NEITHER EASY NOR QUICK. ESSENTIALLY THE QUESTION SHOULD BE RAISED AT EVERY FEASIBLE OPPORTUNITY AT EVERY FEASIBLE LEVEL AND WE SHOULD NOT GIVE IMPRESSION AT ANY LEVEL THAT OUR RELATIONS ARE DEVELOPING SATISFACTORILY AS LONG AS THIS PROBLEM REMAINS. SCHAUFELER
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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